

-----  
LEGI-SLATE Report for 99th Congress

Thursday, August 7, 1986 9:16am (EDT)  
-----

Report for H.C.R.129 Resolution Concerning U.S. POW's in Southeast Asia  
As introduced in the House (Cosponsors added), January 10, 1986  
Complete Text of this version  
-----

IV

99th CONGRESS  
1st Session

H. CON. RES. 129

To establish a congressional commission to be known as the Perot Commission on Americans Missing in Southeast Asia to determine whether or not United States prisoners of war are being held in Southeast Asia and to report to Congress appropriate action to effect the release of any prisoners of war found to be alive.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 24, 1985

Mr. Hendon submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

January 10, 1986

Additional sponsors: Mr. Burton of Indiana, Mr. Sundquist, Mr. Dreier of California, Mr. Smith of New Hampshire, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Gallo, Mr. Gingrich, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Brown of Colorado, Mr. Lipinski, Mr. Bilirakis, Mr. Young of Florida, Mr. Applegate, Mr. Porter, Mr. Monson, Mr. Jeffords, Mr. Craig, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Marlenee, Mr. Frost, Mr. Rowland of Connecticut, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Savage, Mr. Daub, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Parris, Mr. Jones of North Carolina, Mr. Kolbe, Mr. McCloskey, Mr. DeLay, Mr. Packard, Mr. Schulze, Mr. Crane, Mr. Borski, Mr. Torres, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Fields, Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Cobey, Mr. Rudd, Mr. Slattey, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Bates, Mr. English, Mr. Grotberg, Mr. Whitley, Mr. Edwards of Oklahoma, Mr. Reid, Mr. Bliley, Mr. Williams, Mr. Bereuter, Mr. Coble, Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Weber, Mr. Hefner, Mr. DiGuardi, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Loeffler, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Oberstar, Mr. Whitehurst, Mr. Daniel, Mr. Roberts, Mr. MacKay, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Nielson of Utah, Mrs. Smith of Nebraska, Mr. Wortley, Mr. Jones of Oklahoma, Mr. Barton of Texas, Mrs. Bentley, Mr. Horton, Mr. Moorhead, Mr. Chappie, Mr. Saxton, Mr. Hartnett, Mr. Heftel of Hawaii, Mr. Leath of Texas, Mr. Edgar, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Glickman, Mr. Ravill, Mr. Kolter, Mr. Valentine, Mr. McMillan, Mr.

Connecticut, Mr. Siljander, Mr. McKinney, Mr. Chandler, Mr. Stallings, Mr. Hutto, Mr. Spratt, Mr. Blaz, Mr. Leland, Mr. Armey, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Coats, Mr. Lewis of California, Mr. McCandless, Mr. Molinari, Mr. Pashayan, Mr. Skeen, Mrs. Vucanovich, Mr. Stangeland, Mr. Yatron, and Mr. McCurdy

-----  
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To establish a congressional commission to be known as the Perot Commission on Americans Missing in Southeast Asia to determine whether or not United States prisoners of war are being held in Southeast Asia and to report to Congress appropriate action to effect the release of any prisoners of war found to be alive.

=====  
Whereas over twenty-four hundred American servicemen remain unaccounted for from the Vietnam war;  
Whereas 73 per centum of the American people believe the North Vietnamese are still holding American prisoners of war;  
Whereas even though the Montgomery and Woodcock Commissions found in the mid-1970's that no Americans remained prisoner, hundreds of eyewitness accounts of alleged American prisoners of war have been reported to the Defense Intelligence Agency since that time;

Whereas Lieutenant General Eugene Tighe United States Air Force (retired), former Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, stated in 1982 that during his tenure in the Defense Intelligence Agency, the prisoners of war-missing in action issue was a key issue for him and of high priority, he ordered a daily update every morning on his desk, he saw more information daily than any man in the world, and the evidence is clear to him that there are Americans being held against their will in Southeast Asia;

Whereas Lieutenant General Tighe has further stated publicly that some people involved in the United States' effort have been disclaiming good reports about remaining American captives for so long that it has become habit-forming, and has called for the formation of a special Commission to investigate the work of the very agency he headed, citing the Defense Intelligence Agency's work as showing a mind-set to debunk intelligence received on our prisoners of war; and

Whereas H. Ross Perot, who has served as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, is world-renowned for his exemplary public service, humanitarian efforts, and especially for his work during the Vietnam war on behalf of United States prisoners of war: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION.

There is established in the legislative branch of the Government a congressional commission to be known as the Perot Commission on Americans Missing In Southeast Asia (hereinafter in this resolution referred to as the "Commission").

SEC. 2. FUNCTIONS.

LEGI-SLATE Report

Page 3

August 7, 1986

their findings on--

(1) whether or not prisoners of war are still alive and being held against their will in Southeast Asia; and

(2) the appropriate congressional action to effect the release of any prisoners of war found to be alive.

### SEC. 3. APPOINTMENT AND MEMBERSHIP.

(a) Members.--The Commission shall be composed of fifteen members. Such members shall be selected, within thirty days of the date of the adoption of this resolution, by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate from a bipartisan list of not less than twenty nominees submitted by H. Ross Perot, of Dallas, Texas, who is hereby appointed to the Commission and shall serve as its Chairman.

(b) Vacancy.--Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

### SEC. 4. AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURES.

(a) Authority.--For purposes of carrying out this resolution, the Commission, or any subcommittee thereof authorized to hold hearings, is authorized--

(1) to sit and act during the present Congress at such times and places within the United States, including any Commonwealth or possession thereof, or elsewhere, whether the Congress is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold such hearings as it deems necessary; and

(2) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and documents as it deems necessary.

(b) Enforcement.--Compliance with any subpoena issued by the Commission under subsection (a) may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House of Representatives or the Senate.

### SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) Expenses.--Subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by clause 5 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Commission may incur expenses in connection with its duties under this resolution.

(b) Staff and Travel.--In carrying out its functions under this resolution, the Commission is authorized--

(1) to appoint, either on a permanent basis or as experts or consultants, such staff as the Commission considers necessary;

(2) to prescribe the duties and responsibilities of such staff;

(3) to fix the compensation of such staff at a single per annum gross rate which does not exceed the highest rate of basic pay, as in effect from time to time, of level V of the Executive Schedule in section 5316 of title 5, United States Code;

(4) to terminate the employment of any such staff as the Commission considers appropriate; and

(5) to reimburse members of the Commission and of its staff for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties and responsibilities for the Commission, other than expenses in connection with any meeting of the Commission, or a subcommittee.

LEGI-SLATE Report

Page 4

August 7, 1986

whichever occurs first.

SEC. 6. REPORT AND RECORDS.

(a) Report.--The Commission shall report to the Congress as soon as practicable during the present Congress, but not later than six months after the date of the adoption of this resolution, the results of its investigation and study, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

(b) Filing of Report.--Any such report which is made when the House is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of the House and any such report which is made when the Senate is not in session shall be filed with the Clerk of the Senate.

(c) Referral of Report.--Any such report shall be referred to the committee or committees which have jurisdiction over the subject matter thereof.

---